

REMARKS

By this Amendment claim 1 has been amended to delete insoluble acrylic compounds and acrylic emulsions as liquid film-forming polymeric formulations within the scope of the invention. As such, the examiner's outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 should be withdrawn.

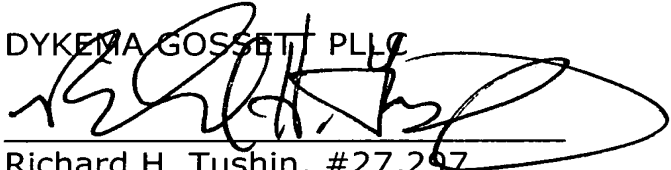
With respect to the examiner's outstanding rejection of claims 1-9, 11-13 and 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dupuis et al., his rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dupuis et al. in view of Akai et al., his rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dupuis et al. in view of Tsubaki et al., his rejection of claims 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dupuis et al., and his rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takiyama et al. in view of Dupuis et al., it is asserted that these rejections must be withdrawn! In this regard, the polymeric resin of Dupuis et al must include a water soluble polymer containing hydroxyl and/or carboxyl groups such as cellulose polymers and acrylic polymers, not the alkyl, polyester and epoxy compounds defined in applicants' amended claim 1.

An allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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